

BA-444

MAGI # 030444/54³5

Bachelor's Choice
North side of Belfast Rd. east
of Yeoho Rd.
Not accessible
1838

Bachelor's Choice was built on land owned for many generations by the Cole family. Abraham Cole, Sr. patented Abraham's Prospect Resurveyed in 1826 and it included a tract known as "Bachelor's Choice". This house was probably built for his son, Isaac, as evidenced by the datestone:

I H C
1838

The dwelling was left to Lewis R. Cole, another son of Abraham Cole, Sr., and sold in 1876 to Michael Crowther, grandfather of the present owner.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

IMAGE # 037 444 0030

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bachelor's Choice

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Belfast Road, east of Yeoho Road

CITY, TOWN

Sparks

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES RESTRICTED☐ YES UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph D. Virdin, Jr.

Telephone #: 472-2562

STREET & NUMBER

Belfast Road

CITY, TOWN

Sparks

VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

21152

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 4832

Folio #: 197

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

B 4-21441

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | DATE _____ |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bachelor's Choice is a stone house, four bays in length, two stories in height, its principle facade to the south. Approximately centered, a stone kitchen wing extends to the north, two bays in length, two stories in height. The house and its kitchen wing appear to be coeval; a painted inscription in an arched recessed panel high on the east gable

I H C

1838

is consistent with the basic form of the house and its original details. A two story frame addition fills the northwest angle between the house and its kitchen wing, its roof an extension of the kitchen's westerly slope. Although its materials differ, this later construction matches the style of the original.

A one story hipped roof porch with Tuscan columns extends across the south front and east end and a porch with turned columns and jig sawn brackets shelters the east side of the kitchen wing.

All roofs are gabled and terminate in flush end chimneys of brick; roofs are covered with standing seam tin. There are no rake overhangs. Matching six-panel doors with five-light transoms are in the two middle bays of the south front and windows through out are 6/6 with narrow beaded frames and louvered blinds. Masonry above all openings is supported by brick jack arches, those of the second story south front having brick imposts at either end.

The two front doors open into a pair of rooms joined with a wide opening formally with double doors. The staircase rises, open, to the second floor in the northwest corner of the house; its moulded rail is supported by slim turned newels and round tapered balusters. Beaded architraves are of two planes without a backband. Matching mantels, wood cornicework and chair railing are all modern. The original kitchen retains its large cooking fireplace and an enclosed winding stair ascends to the second and attic floors east of the fireplace. A supboard occupies the space west of the chimney.

See Continuation Sheet # 1

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | | |

| | | | |
|----------------|------|-------------------|---------|
| SPECIFIC DATES | 1838 | BUILDER/ARCHITECT | Unknown |
|----------------|------|-------------------|---------|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bachelor's Choice, located on the north side of Belfast Road east of Yeoho Road, was built on land owned for many generations by the Cole family. Abraham Cole, Sr., patented Abraham's Prospect Resurveyed in 1826.* This house was probably built for his son, Isaac, as evidenced by the date-stone:

I H C

1838

The dwelling was left to Lewis R. Cole, another son of Abraham Cole, Sr. and sold in 1876 to Michael Crowther, the grandfather of Elizabeth C. Virdin, the present owner.

* The name "Bachelor's Choice" comes from an earlier patent which was incorporated into this resurvey.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Patent to Abraham's Prospect Resurveyed: Patent Book IB & GBB#H folio 229
 Sidney, J.C. Map of The City and County of Baltimore, Maryland.
 (Baltimore, 1850)
 Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. (Philadelphia,
 1877)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .39 A ⁺

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 Description, Continued

The second floor plan is similar and the original mantels with plain pilasters supporting a plain frieze remain in place. The entire attic is roughly plastered, probably as an early insulation effort although it may have been used as sleeping quarters in spite of its very low head room; small windows flank each of the three chimneys in the gable ends to provide light and ventilation.

A two storey spring house with smokehouse above is built into the hillside immediately north of the house,. The roof cantilevers over the south gable to shelter an exterior wood staircase to the upper storey.

An early one storey carriage house of wood frame west of the house has been adapted as a garage.